GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4599
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
Auction of FM Radio Channels
Tanwar Shri Kanwar Singh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to auction FM radio channels in 264 cities in the recent past and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of cities where such auctions including Uttar Pradesh were undertaken; and

(c) The details of revenue collection expected and the actual total revenue collected from these auctions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING,
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) FM Phase-III Policy on expansion of FM Radio broadcasting service through private sector (Phase-III) notified on 25.07.2011 extends FM Radio services to 227 new cities, in addition to the 67 cities where complete auction could not be done in Phase-II.

(b) The first batch of auction under Phase-III for 135 channels in 69 cities was conducted from 27 July to 9 September, 2015. A list of these 69 cities is given as Annexure-I. Nine cities of Uttar Pradesh namely Kanpur, Lucknow, Agra, Allahabad, Varanasi, Aligarh, Bareily, Gorakhpur and Jhansi were included in this list where FM channels have been successfully auctioned. The 2nd batch auction for 266 channels in 92 cities is in progress.

(c) The Govt. received an amount of Rs.1103.51 crores from winners of 96 channels in 55 cities, against a reserve price of Rs.550.18 crore for 135 channels in 69 cities included in the first batch.